

IN THE SPECIFICATIONS:

Please replace the penultimate paragraph on page 13 as filed with the following:

It will be realized that many other variations of the game are possible by introducing any number of gates of the present invention. For example, gates may be placed between the players and also behind them, i.e., a combination of the embodiments depicted in Figs. 1 and 3, and shown in Fig. 4, wherein the aim is ~~as in Fig. 3~~ to hit the ball through the opponent's gate but the ball also must pass through the middle gate. Furthermore, the gate apparatus of the present invention can be further provided with other sport and game devices, for enhancing the recreational nature of the device, by utilizing the construction and portability of the gate. Such devices can be, for example, a basketball hoop, a dart game table, etc., which can be easily ~~hang~~ hung on the gate. Thus, the device can be used as a portable, multi-functional recreation ~~portable~~ center.